

Statement—II.*List of Consultation Papers & Questionnaires*

1. Review of the Working of Political Parties specially in relation to Election and Reform Options;
2. Review of Election Law, Processes and Reform Options;
3. Immunity of Legislators — What do the words in respect of anything said or any vote given by him' in article 105(2) signify;
4. Treaty making Power under the Constitution;
5. Liability of the State in Tort;
6. All India Judicial Service; and
7. Efficacy of Public Audit systems in India; C&AG—Reforming the Institution.

Elections through Voter Identity Cards

†451. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government and Election Commission have received certain suggestions from some of the State Governments to hold all the elections through voter identity cards in future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the work pertaining to issue of voter identity cards in all the States of the country has been accomplished;
- (d) if so, what are details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) if not, the names of States where such task is yet to be completed; and
- (f) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to review voter's lists in all the States and issue identity cards to all the voters?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Election Commission has informed that it has not received any suggestion from any State Government so far for conducting future elections using photo identity cards only.

(c) to (e) A Statement showing status of progress of the scheme of issuance of photo identity cards to electors in the country is laid on the Table of the House. (See below) In this connection, it may be stated that the scheme has so far not

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been extended to the State of Jammu & Kashmir. The work has also not been started in Assam and Mizoram till now, although the programme has been extended in these States. It may also be stated that this scheme is not a project but a programme and no time limit can be fixed for completion of such a programme since the registration of electors is a continuous process and new electors are also required to be covered by the scheme from time to time.

(f) The Election Commission, which is in overall charge of running and monitoring the scheme of issuance of photo identity cards to electors, has initiated a number of steps to cover all electors with these cards. The scheme is being implemented as a two phased programme with a target percentage of 85% of electors to be issued defect free identity cards in a district in the first phase. In the second phase, the remaining electors not covered in the first phase and the additional electors included on the rolls subsequently are to be covered. The Election Commission has accorded highest priority to increase the coverage of electors with these cards in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala and Pondicherry, where elections to the Legislative Assemblies are due in early 2001.

Statement

Status report on progress of electors photo identity cards

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Status as on (date)	Total Electors	Electors issued with defect-free Identity Cards	Percentage (5 as% of 4)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.4.2000	49,140,231	32,568,406	66.28
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.3.2000	622,124	373,152	59.98
3.	Assam	31.5.1998	12,575,854	67,479	0.54
4.	Bihar	31.3.1998	58,438,317	21,681,836	37.10
5.	Goa	30.9.2000	917,222	525,575	57.30
6.	Gujarat	31.5.2000	29,631,636	23,177,051	78.22
7.	Haryana	30.4.2000	11,108,535	9,850,009	88.67
8.	Himachal Pradesh	30.11.2000	3,814,769	2,654,733	60.59
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	5,022,782	0	0.00

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1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Karnataka	30.9.2000	34,903,320	24,407,863	69.93
11.	Kerala*	30.11.2000	22,416,897	16,295,609	72.69
12.	Madhya Pradesh	31.1.2000	44,640,047	27,706,647	62.07
13.	Maharashtra	31.11.2000	57,505,567	44,455,999	77.31
14.	Manipur	31.7.2000	1,413,690	1,033,733	73.12
15.	Meghalaya	20.4.2000	1,182,672	641,459	54.24
16.	Mizoram	—	457,434	0	0.00
17.	Nagaland	31.1.2000	966,275	625,996	64.78
18.	Orissa	30.9.2000	24,172,899	18,188,207	75.24
19.	Punjab	31.11.2000	15,723,949	10,810,977	68.75
20.	Rajasthan	31.10.2000	31,177,865	22,532,408	72.27
21.	Sikkim	31.1.2000	257,062	200,077	77.83
22.	Tamil Nadu*	30.11.2000	47,945,872	26,581,419	55.44
23.	Tripura	31.1.2000	1,725,809	1,229,993	71.27
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31.3.2000	101,943,066	53,027,456	52.02
25.	West Bengal*	30.11.2000	48,121,902	39,102,999	81.26
26.	A & N Islands	30.9.2000	252,729	194,973	77.15
27.	Chandigarh	30.4.1999	538,607	381,048	70.75
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	31.12.2000	103,603	81,700	78.86
29.	Daman & Diu	28.2.1999	71,931	45,645	63.46
30.	NCT of Delhi	31.1.2000	8,707,531	5,800,683	66.62
31.	Lakshadweep	28.2.1999	36,738	31,813	86.59
32.	Pondicherry*	30.9.2000	658,927	555,675	84.33
ALL INDIA TOTAL:		616,195,862	384,830,620	62.45	

*The Election Commission has accorded highest priority to increase the coverage of electors with photo identity cards in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala and Pondicherry where elections to the Legislative Assemblies are due in early 2001. The progress achieved in these States is given below.

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Status Report on Progress of Electors Photo Identity Cards

Sl. No.	States/UT	Position as on	Total electors	Electors issued with Defect-free Identity Cards up to July, 2000	Electors issued with Defect-free Identity Cards after July 2000.	Total EPIC issue so far (Col. 4 + Col. 5)	Percent-age (Col. 6 as % of Col. 3)
1.	Kerala	31.1.2001	22,848,899	15,327,431	1,922,258	17,294,195	75.69
2.	Tamil Nadu	1.1.2001	47,945,872	26,581,419	4,213,115	30,796,895	64.23
3.	West Bengal	1.1.2001	48,642,245	37,673,926	2,155,974	39,829,900	81.88
4.	Pondicherry	31.10.2000	658,927	555,675	—	—	84.33

*Note: EPIC programme in Pondicherry is to commence after the current round of Special revision of Electoral Rolls.

Implementation of First National Judicial Pay Commission

452. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Judges Association has urged Government to implement the First National Judicial Pay Commission Report which had suggested uniform pay structure, service conditions and nomenclature of posts for judicial officers; and

(b) Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) submitted its report in November, 1999. The matter relating to judicial officers including their conditions of service is primarily the concern of the State Governments/High Courts. The Commission has sent its recommendations to the Central Government, State Governments, UT Administrations and High Courts. The recommendations are under examination in so far as they relate to the Central Government, i.e. in regard to the Union Territories only. The recommendations which relate to the State Governments are being examined by the State Governments.